

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Please amend claims 6-9 as indicated below.

1-5. (Cancelled)

6. (Currently amended) A method for the preparation of a reagent for use in diagnosis of schizophrenia in an individual by detecting a DTH reaction in said individual following injection of said reagent to the individual, comprising:

- a) obtaining blood samples from a number of individuals, preparing a pool from said samples and collecting platelets therefrom;
- b) preparing a protein fraction from said platelet preparation comprising proteins or fractions thereof, wherein the pI of said proteins or fractions thereof is greater than ~~or equal to~~ about 6.5.

7. (Currently amended) A diagnostic method for determining schizophrenia in a subject comprising:

- a) obtaining a preparation comprising platelet derived proteins or fractions thereof, wherein the pI of said proteins or fractions thereof is greater than ~~or equal to~~ about 6.5;

b) injecting said preparation into a subject; and
c) examining the subject for the occurrence of delayed type hypersensitivity reaction at the site of the injection, a positive result being a reaction above that which is observed in non-schizophrenic subjects, indicating that the subject has a high likelihood of being schizophrenic.

8. (Currently amended) A diagnostic method for determining schizophrenia in a subject comprising:

(a) obtaining a blood sample from a number of schizophrenic or non schizophrenic individuals other than the tested subject and collecting platelets therefrom;
(b) preparing a protein fraction from said platelet separation comprising proteins or fractions thereof, wherein the pI of said proteins or fractions thereof is greater than ~~or equal to~~ about 6.5;
(c) injecting said protein preparation into a subject; and
(d) examining the subject for the occurrence of a delayed type hypersensitivity reaction at the site of the injection, a positive result being a reaction above that which is observed in non-schizophrenic subjects,

indicating that the subject has a high likelihood of being schizophrenic.

9. (Currently amended) A diagnostic method for determining schizophrenia in a subject comprising;

a) obtaining a blood sample from an individual and collecting platelets therefrom;

b) collecting proteins or fractions thereof from said platelet sample, wherein the pI of said proteins or fractions is greater than ~~or equal to~~ about 6.5.

c) injecting said collected proteins or fractions thereof to the tested individual; and

d) examining the subject for the occurrence of delayed type hypersensitivity reaction at the site of the injection, a positive result being a reaction above that which is observed in non-schizophrenic subjects, indicating that the subject has a high likelihood of being schizophrenic.

10. (Previously presented) The method of claim 6, wherein said proteins or fractions thereof have a pI within the range of above 6.5 to about 9.5.

11. (Previously presented) The method of claim 7, wherein said proteins or fractions thereof have a pI within the range of above 6.5 to about 9.5.

12. (Previously presented) The method of claim 8, wherein said proteins or fractions thereof have a pI within the range of above 6.5 to about 9.5.

13. (Previously presented) The method of claim 9, wherein said proteins or fractions thereof have a pI within the range of above 6.5 to about 9.5.

INTERVIEW SUMMARY

Applicants would like to take this opportunity to thank the Examiner for the courtesy extended during the interview held on June 29, 2004. In accordance with the discussions held at the interview, Applicants have amended the claims in the expectation that the amendments will overcome the rejections under 37 U.S.C. §112.

During the interview, the inventive subject matter was reviewed in depth, as well as the distinguishing features of the claimed subject matter over the prior art of record. No agreement was reached regarding the rejections under 35 U.S.C. §103, although Applicants did agree to provide further evidence or argument relating to this rejection, and particularly to address the teaching of Applicants' own work, cited from WO 97/13152. It was agreed that the amendments presented herein, limiting claims 6-9 to recite a pI "greater than about 6.5," would overcome the rejections under 35 U.S.C. §112.